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23 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Special Requirements Staff, OSA

SUBJECT : Geographic Definitions for China Mainland

1. The recent spate of activity in the TACKLE Detachment with regard to coverage of the China Main land has focused our attention on the fact that terminology currently utilized to describe various geographic areas of China is fairly loose indeed.

2. As you know, the language of the Special Group in approving China missions usually does not go further than to indicate concurrence in a "South China mission" or a "China Straits mission" and the like. With the prospect that additional missions will be flown in the future not only to cover the China Straits area but elsewhere as the weather improves over the Mainland, I would like to ask your guidance, and if you see fit that of COMOR, in delineating more accurately the areas of China so that we can understand which approvals ticket to punch when a mission is planned and flown.

3. I do not wish to make a federal issue of this matter, and perhaps you may conclude that it is better to keep this suggestion "fuzzed up" as RMB used to say. I suspect that any settlement of this geographic question along the basis of Panmunjom lines would be too arbitrary to be flexible, but at the moment it is difficult to tell where South China leaves off and Central China begins. Perhaps there is in existence some delineation of these terms which could be applied both in COMOR meetings and in Special Group approvals. Please let me have your views.

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(Special Activities)

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Approved For Release 2003/12/23 : CIA-RDP33-02415A000300150011-9

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